Nursery Pest Newsletter

Plant Protection and Weed Control
Kansas Department of Agriculture
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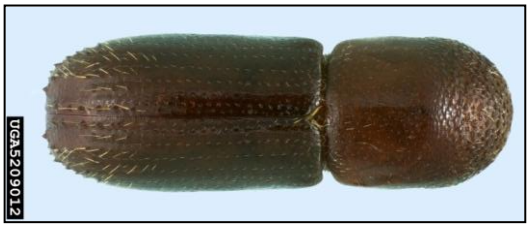
Fall 2011

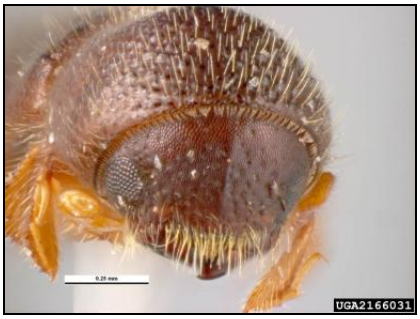
An Unusual Bark Beetle: Xyleborinus saxeseni

Greg Chrislip, State Entomologist

While conducting a nursery inspection this summer, one of our area inspectors found an interesting scolytid (bark) beetle on some Green Mountain maples. Initially, the beetles were thought to be *Xylosandrus crassiusculus* (called the Asian ambrosia beetle). The beetles lacked the rows of asperities (bumps) found on the front of the pronotum, which are very evident in *X. crassiusculus*. The most notable feature of an infested plant is the strings of frass sticking out from the trunk of the infested plants. The preferred host plant for these species varies from fruit trees to hardwoods and conifers. With a heavy infestation the plant wilts and eventually dies. There are many records of this beetle in the Kansas entomological holdings at Kansas University, most made by Glen Salisbury the former state entomologist.



Granulate Ambrosia Beetle (*Xylosandrus crassiususculus*): Note the rows of asperites on the leading edge of the pronotum.



Asian Ambrosia Beetle (*Xyleborinus saxeseni*)

Photo: University of Florida

Chains of frass protruding from a tree infested with bark beetles.

Common Nursery Weeds in Kansas

Darin L. Banks, Weed Specialist

It's never too late in the year to think about spring planting. When the early spring days start to warm and the snow melts, many Kansas nurseries find that the once-dormant seeds of many weed species also start to awaken. As any nursery manager can tell you, the control of weedy plants in field and container-grown nursery stock is one of the most labor intensive and costly expenses of plant production. Factors such as nursery stock origin, storage locations, prior weed control practices and environmental variances make weed control especially difficult. Additionally, numerous weedy species may become problematic at the same time. The success of any weed control program begins with the correct identification of weedy species present, in addition to an understanding the plants' life cycles, modes of reproduction and dispersal techniques.

Plant nurseries often have to deal with a wide variety of weedy plant species depending upon what type of production facilities they utilize. Additionally, some weedy plant species, such as field bindweed and Canada thistle, are state-declared noxious weeds. Nursery stock that is found to be infested with any state -declared noxious weed or quarantined plant species is illegal for

sale or distribution within Kansas and must be destroyed once infestations are verified.

Canada thistle plants emerging in the spring from rhizomes infesting field-grown forsythia shrubs

Included below are the state declared noxious weeds and quarantined plant species for Kansas, as well as some of the more common weedy plant species found in field and container-grown nursery stock.

Kansas Noxious Weeds	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Russian knapweed	*Acroptilon repens*
bur ragweed	*Ambrosia grayi*
hoary cress	*Cardaria draba*
musk thistle	*Carduus nutans*
Canada thistle	*Cirsium arvense*
bull thistle[1]	*Cirsium vulgare*
field bindweed	*Convolvulus arvensis*
quackgrass	*Elymus repens*
leafy spurge	*Euphorbia esula*
pignut	*Hoffmannseggia glauca*
sericea lespedeza	*Lespedeza cuneata*
kudzu	*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*
multiflora rose[1]	*Rosa multiflora*
Johnsongrass	*Sorghum halepense*

[1] County-designated noxious weed.

Kansas Quarantined Plants	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Grecian foxglove	*Digitalis lanata*
hydrilla[2]	*Hydrilla verticillata*
Japanese bloodgrass[2]	*Imperata cylindrica*
purple loosestrife[3]	*Lythrum salicaria*
wand loosestrife[3]	*Lythrum virgatum*
giant salvinia[2]	*Salvinia* spp.
tamarisk / salt cedar	*Tamarix* spp.

[2] Included from a quarantine of all federal noxious weed species.
[3] Includes all hybrids derived from these species.

Common Container Weeds	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**
bittercress	*Card amine* spp.
mouse-ear chickweed	*Cirsium fontanel* ssp. *vulgare*
sandmat	*Chamaesyce* spp.
crabgrass	*Digitaria* spp.
false daisy	*Eclipta prostrata*
green carpetweed	*Mollugo verticillata*
woodsorrel / oxalis	*Oxalis* spp.
annual bluegrass	*Poa annua*
common groundsel	*Senecio vulgaris*
spiny sowthistle	*Sonchus asper*
common chickweed	*Stellaria media*

Common Field Weeds	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**
velvetleaf	*Abutilon theophrasti*
Virginia threeseed mercury	*Acalypha virginica*
pigweed	*Amaranthus* spp.
annual ragweed	*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*
great ragweed	*Ambrosia trifida*
yellow rocket	*Barbarea vulgaris*
annual brome	*Bromus* spp.
hedge bindweed	*Calystegia sepium*
shepherd's purse	*Capsella bursa-pastoris*
lambsquarters / goosefoot	*Chenopodium* spp.
common dayflower	*Commelina communis*
horseweed	*Conyza canadensis*
yellow nutsedge	*Cyperus esculentus*
rough barnyardgrass	*Echinochloa muricata*
spurge	*Euphorbia* spp.
common bedstraw	*Galium aparine*
white avens	*Geum canadense*
ivyleaf morning-glory	*Ipomoea hederacea*
henbit	*Lamium amplexicaule*
Virginia pepperweed	*Lepidium virginicum*
common mallow	*Malva neglecta*
black medic	*Medicago lupulina*
common evening primrose	*Oenothera biennis*
cutleaf evening primrose	*Oenothera laciniata*
witchgrass	*Panicum capillare*
plantain	*Plantago* spp.
smartweed / knotweed	*Polygonum* spp.
purslane	*Portulaca oleracea*
Russian thistle	*Salsola tragus*
foxtail	*Setaria* spp.
nightshade	*Solanum* spp.
common dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale*
clover	*Trifolium* spp.

For more information concerning noxious weeds and quarantined plants please contact us at 785-862-2180 or go to www.ksda.gov/plant_protection/content/360.

Changes to the Plant Pest and Agriculture Certification Act

Jeff Vogel, Program Manager

The Plant Pest and Agriculture Commodity Certification Act were amended during the 2011 legislative session.

Most of the amendments are to provide language clarification to parts of the act. Some of the highlighted changes include:

1. License requirements for live plant dealers - Live plant dealers that do not import or export plants into or from Kansas and have gross receipts from the business of less than $10,000, are exempt from licensing requirements. To claim the exemption, live plant dealers must annually complete an application stating their locations and sources.
2. License fees for live plant dealers are increased from$60 to $80.
3. The $15,000 cap on the emergency pest fund is removed.
4. The act clarifies the authority of inspectors to enter, place and inspect monitoring equipment (traps), and obtain samples.
5. Requires all live plants, handled by a live plant dealer, to be accompanied by a tag, label, bill of lading, receipt or other documentation that identifies the consigner or shipper, a description of the contents, and the point of origin.
6. A mechanism is added for the Department to assess mitigation costs to live plant dealers that fail to comply with a regulatory action.
7. Increases the maximum civil penalty from $1,000 to $2,000 per violation.

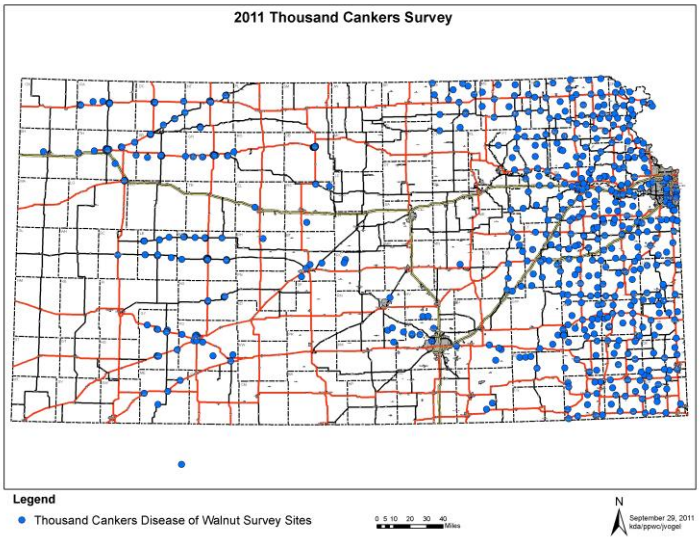
Retired Staff

Terry Clarkson the southwest area inspector retired on September 16, 2011. He has more than 23 years of service with the Kansas Department of Agriculture. His first 19 years was with the Pesticide and Fertilizer Program and the rest was with the Plant Protection and Weed Control Program.

Trapping and Survey Programs

The national trapping survey for Emerald Ash Borer consisted of 200 traps being set in Kansas for 2011. Of these, 100 were set by the state and 100 were set by USDA-APHIS-PPQ. The traps were put up primarily in campgrounds and event areas from April through September. No EAB was found. For information on the Emerald Ash Borer go to: www.emeraldashborer.info.

There were 2 more eastern states added to the list for thousand cankers disease. On June 24, Virginia and on July 29, Pennsylvania had positive confirmations for the disease. Tennessee is the other eastern state that was positive for the disease in 2010. Other positive states are Colorado and the western United States. We have been visually inspecting walnut trees across the state this year for the walnut twig beetle and thousand cankers disease of walnut and completed 773 observations. So far we have not found it. If you should see walnut trees exhibiting signs of this disease contact our department. For more information, visit our website: http://www.ksda.gov/plant_protection/content/350/cid/1615



Starting in October, we will be coming to some of your businesses to hang traps to check for the winter moth and doing visual inspections for gypsy moth eggs. The traps will be in place starting in October and taken down in December. For information on the winter moth go to: http://www.massnrc.org/pests/pestFAQsheets/winter%20moth.html

We appreciate the live plant dealers who let us put traps on their property. This type of work is of great importance in protecting Kansas. Early detection will improve the odds of eradication and containment success if the pests are found.

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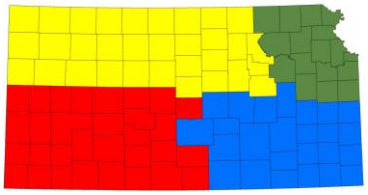

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